



Idaho FFA Association

February

Issue

**Learning to Do *Doing to Learn *Earning to Live *Living to Serve*

Upcoming Events

*March 1: State FFA Officer apps due
State Proficiency apps due
Entertainment apps due
March 17: Ag Rendezvous at BYU-I
April 1-3: State Convention in Twin Falls*

****Be sure to check the website for all of the applications and their deadlines for State Convention.****

Special Guest Column

Hello Idaho FFA!

I am Stacia Berry and I am serving as National FFA Secretary this year. It is an honor for me to be able to write an article for your newsletter. My message to share is simple, be your **best** self! When you learn through leadership conferences, it is easy to find ourselves trapped in the thought that we have to be the best in everything that we do—that we have to win every Career Development Event, speech contest, or have the highest office. A mindset that first place is the only place that matters comes over you and you start to wonder how you will reach the top of the heap. However, the truth of the matter is: your personal best is the best!

You have the tools to reach excellence; it is just a matter of using your talents and skills to your benefit. If you like mechanics focus on

making it part of your Supervised Agricultural Experience or try the Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event, follow your strengths! As long as you give a one hundred and ten percent effort in everything you do, it doesn't matter what place you finish or what office you hold. You can take pride in the quality of person that you are! We can't all be the best public speakers, livestock judges and there is only one Chapter President, but it takes every single member to make our organization what it is today. The diverse talents and abilities of each member of every chapter create the success of the FFA.

Idaho FFA, my challenge to you is not only to be the best, but also to be your best self!

Note: Stacia Berry will be the National Officer that attends our State Leadership Convention this year, where she will be speaking and presenting a workshop.

Contents

*In Memory of Clay—Page 2
A Half-Minute w/ Mrs. Shively—Page 2
President's Remarks—Page 3
FFA Trivia—Page 3
State Leadership Convention—Page 3
Day on the Hill—Page 4
Featured Activity—Page 5
A Whole New Generation—Page 5
National News Release—Page 6*



In Memory of Clay



Clay Edward Hill was an active member of the Nezperce FFA Chapter for 2 ½ years. He raised two steers (one grand and one reserve champion) for the Lewis County Fair and was in the process of raising a third during the summer of 2003 when he was killed in a car accident on the Reubens-Gifford Road. Clay enjoyed outdoors activities such as fishing and skiing and enjoyed such sports as basketball and baseball. He would have been 16 on July 4, 2003, but was killed just 4 days before on June 30. He was born in Lewiston on July 4, 1987 and killed June 30, 2003. He was a great friend that will be missed very much by all who knew him. He left behind friends in Nezperce, Deary, and surrounding towns. His parents are Roy and Shannon Hill of Nezperce and he had one sister, Jamie Johnson.

The Nezperce FFA surrounded the sales arena at the fair this year and stood amidst a teary crowd when the steer sold for over \$3/lb. Cori Howard, Chapter President was the one who led the steer into the arena. The Nezperce FFA Chapter helped the family to prepare the steer for the sale. Cori made a bulletin board with pictures of Clay to advertise the sale outside of the steer's pen. All proceeds from the sale went towards the Clay Hill Memorial Scholarship fund, which is still accepting donations.

- Sarah Murt, Nezperce FFA Chapter Secretary



A Half-Minute with Mrs. Lisa Shively, State Coordinator

-Hometown: Eagle, ID - the first 20 years, Terreton the last 23 years.

-Birthday: April 18, 1961 (my youngest son was born on the same day in 1990.)

-Favorite Ice Cream: Chocolate

-Favorite Dinner: Pork Roast with potatoes and gravy.

-Television Show: "Judging Amy"

-Favorite Singer: Allison Kraus

-Most Admired Person in History: A lady known in my family history that I admire is my 93 year old Grandmother who is still living and lives like she is only 70. What an inspiration!

-Favorite Quote: Heard from Seth Heinert at NLCSO:

"To Be Early, Is to Be on Time,
To Be on Time, Is to Be Late,
To Be Late, Is to Be Left!"

-Memorable Moments: Wedding Day and the birth of our two sons.

-FFA Experience: Member and Officer in the Meridian FFA Chapter during the years 1975-1979; State FFA Secretary 1980-81; Attending the National Convention as FFA celebrated 50 years and being in attendance at the National FFA Convention when they celebrated 75 years.

-Hobbies & Interests: Gardening, Camping, Watching high school sporting events that my sons are participating in.

-Family: Husband - Rob; Sons - Steve - 17; John - 13.

President's Remarks

Hello everyone! Only 38 days left till State Leadership Conference as I write this! I can't tell you how excited the state officer team is about SLC. We did spend the day before Cenarussa Day on the Hill preparing slideshows and final tributes and retiring addresses at Matt's house in preparation for the biggest event of our state officer careers. But as big as SLC will be and as well as Legislative Breakfast went, I must say that the BEST part of my job is doing chapter visits!



I have enjoyed coming to visit all of your chapters these final weeks. Lately Jason and I have traveled to Minico and Shoshone and I have visited Valley and Dietrich. I have been so impressed with all of you amazing FFA members, and can't tell you how much other teenagers look up to you for leadership in these times. I know from experience that high school is one of the most challenging times of a person's life and I also know from experience that our organization provides many of the most needed skills to make it through this stage of life successfully.

I would like to relay a story I heard of a girl who lived in a small town. Her mother had married an abusive man when the girl was about 12. The man was very downgrading to the young lady. She began to be distraught from the constant put-downs and criticisms. Well along came high school and an ag class which in turn became FFA. As they say the rest is history. This young lady is now 18. Through her experiences in FFA and the support of her agricultural education instructor she has learned many things. She has learned responsibility, virtue, and honesty through her FFA experience. But most of all she has learned that only she can determine what kind of person she is. No one else can tell her she isn't good enough or that she doesn't try enough. Because

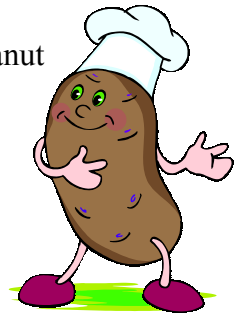
now she knows that she can do anything she wants to, can be anything she wants to be. She has the self-confidence to take on the world and is. I think we can all learn something from this true story.

FFA members, it really is your world to reach out and grab. All you need is all you've got; a lot of determination, courage, and faith and you too can move mountains! Can't wait to see you at State Convention!

-John Meyers, State President

FFA and Agriculture Trivia

1. Who is the State FFA Coordinator?
2. Name one individual who was awarded honorary membership at Cenarussa/FFA Day on the Hill?
3. Name the digestive organ of a horse that is located between the Large and Small intestines?
4. What is the Treasurers emblem?
5. Who is the 2003-2004 National FFA W. Region Vice President?
6. What year did President Eisenhower speak at National Convention?
7. Who is the current State Secretary?
8. If you're traveling East on I-84 and left at 9 o'clock from Boise and your friend leaves at 11:00, what color are the cows as you pass the Jerome area?
9. Who was the inventor of Peanut Butter?
10. What is the 1st line in the Motto?



Answers on next page

State Leadership Convention is Almost Here

As March arrives, State Leadership Convention in Twin Falls is only one month away. The dates have been set for April 1-3 at



the College of Southern Idaho. This year's convention should be a big one as we are looking ahead to the 74th year in the Idaho FFA Association. This year's theme is "FFA... Passport to Success!" It is a fun theme and should lead to some interesting workshops from visiting state officers and our visiting national officer, Stacia Christine Berry. The Conference will begin Thursday April 1st with a bang as the state officers take the stage and present awards and many competitions hit the stage. Friday and Saturday will be filled with fun and excitement as all of the state officers present their retiring addresses. Finally Saturday will finish up with President, John Meyers retiring address and the announcement and installation of the 2004-2005 Idaho FFA State Officer team! It is an exciting time for Idaho FFA members. State Convention is a chance for many members to earn their way to the National FFA Convention in many Career Development Events from Creed Speaking to Parliamentary Procedure. It is also a chance for younger members to see the true size of the National FFA Organization in Idaho! We hope to see many of you there, and maybe we can see some record attendance this year. Hope to see you there!

-Matt Woodington, State Vice President

1. Mrs. Lisa Shively, 2. Director Patrick A. Takasugi, Sen. Don Burtenshaw, Representative Dell Raybould, 3. Cecum 4. The Emblem of Washington, 5. Casey Hogan--from Texas, 6. 1953, 7. Katie Jenkins--from Troy, 8. Black and White, 9. George Washington Carver 10. Learning to Do

Answers

Cenarrusa/FFA Day on the Hill

On Sunday Morning, I was able to drive six hours down to Boise with Matt Woodington. The trip went by very fast for me, but I guess



the fact that I slept most the way didn't make it a very short trip for Matt. Once we got to Matt's house, in Meridian, we were hosted,

fed, and taken great care of by Matt's parents Pat and Cindy Woodington—who were so kind and hospitable to six crazy state officers. Sunday evening and Monday were busy days for our team. We were getting everything prepared for the State Leadership Conference this April in Twin Falls, Idaho. There was a lot to do, such as the scrapbook, slideshows, final tribute speeches and slideshow, etc. It was a very busy two days, but I'm pleased with all that we got done. Monday morning John, Trent, Jason, and I attended the Farm Bureau Speech Contest. Three out of the four speakers were FFA members and we were very proud of them and their great presentations.

Tuesday morning, the state officers awoke bright and early to arrive at the Grove Hotel at 5:45AM. Before the Cenarrusa/FFA Day on the Hill Conference began, the State Officers welcomed, escorted, and met many of the Idaho Legislators and Representatives. The conference began at 7:00AM with the State FFA Officers conducting opening ceremonies. Senator Larry Craig made a few remarks to the group, but was unable to stay due to his schedule and other necessary duties. Breakfast was served, while the FFA members ate and conversed with many of the legislators who joined them at their tables. I had the pleasure to sit with my FFA Chapter and talk with Democrat Shirley Ringo. It was a great time to get to know a number of the Legislators representing our state, to ask questions about what they do and to get answers about new bills and committees formed through Idaho and governmental issues. After breakfast, I was able to present—along with the FFA State Officers—three Honorary State FFA Degrees to: Patrick Takasugi, State Director, Idaho Department of Agriculture; Don Burtenshaw, Idaho Senator, District 35, Terreton; and Dell Raybould, Idaho House of Representatives, District 34, Rexburg. These awards are given to outstanding leaders and members of society and to the FFA Organization. Congratulations to the Honorary Members!

The rest of the afternoon and Cenarrusa/FFA Day on the Hill Conference was spent taking a variety of tours to the Idaho State Department of Agriculture Building, the Fish and Game Facility, the Historical Museum, and even the Idaho Capital Building. Being able to tour and see all the amazing historical, governmental, and educational buildings and monuments in the area, was a great experience for all who



attended this conference. The atmosphere and whole experience at the Cenarrusa/FFA Day on the Hill was very educational, interesting, and fun. Those who attended this special convention had a wonderful time. It was a great opportunity to meet Idaho State Legislators and Representatives, listen to Senator Larry Craig speak, and tour many monumental buildings in Boise.

Driving home with Matt was a little better than the road trip down. I managed to stay awake most of the time as we both listened and sang to the music. It was a very fun conference and trip!

-Katie L. Jenkins, State Secretary

Quote of the Month

*"Minds are like parachutes.
They only function when they
are open."*

- Sir James Dewar, Scientist (1877-1925)

Featured Activity

Imagine: State Leadership Convention, State CDE's, or the National Convention is soon approaching. The chapter has an individual or teams competing in a contest and you have high hopes for them to do very well. What better time to wish your friends well while raising the FFA awareness in the community?

This is a simple activity that can be a great deal of fun for the members and can open new doors for the chapter. All it requires is some poster board, markers, and artists.

Simply come up with some slogans for your contestants to wish them luck at the competition—and capture them on the poster boards. Then take them around town and hang them up in businesses' windows—most businesses see it as an opportunity to show their customers that they support their community and would gladly oblige. Afterwards make sure the group has refreshments, does an activity, or even just watch a movie—there is no reason why there can't be some fun involved later on. Also, make sure to take the posters down for the businesses and give them the thanks they deserve.

Hanging posters up for the team will raise awareness and support the troops. And as Martha would say: "It's a good thing."

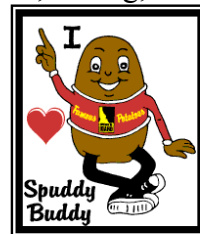
-Trent Van Leuven, State Reporter

A Whole New Generation

Imagine, it's 1928. You're standing in a Convention hall at the First National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri and you begin to wonder to yourself, what will be the future of the FFA? Will there be a future for Agricultural Education?

Every year thousands of FFA members across the country say the FFA creed, stating, "I believe in the future of agriculture!" If there is to be a future in Agriculture, then there must be a future for Agricultural Education.

So you jump into your time machine and flash forward 75



years. You stand in awe as you realize that the FFA is no longer simply based on Agricultural Production, but has changed its emphasis to the importance of premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

Franklin Roosevelt once said, "We have always held to the hope, the belief, the conviction that there is a better life; a better world beyond that horizon." That better world will come through agricultural education. With today's use of agricultural technology, we will be able to build a world with the promise of a better tomorrow.

In the words of Booker T. Washington, "Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way." Agricultural Education and the FFA give students the opportunity to shine. To achieve things they never thought possible. As we are inspired to become more involved in the Agricultural Program, we begin to understand the importance of Agriculture in our everyday lives.

Agriculture and the FFA will continue to press forward because we believe in the same hopes and dreams as they did back in 1928. I believe in the future of agriculture, because together we can build a better tomorrow.

-Michelle Jenkins, State Sentinel

National FFA Organization Membership at 19-Year High

INDIANAPOLIS—Today, nearly a half-million young people nationwide, as well as in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, are living the legacy of the National FFA Organization. By becoming members of FFA, 464,267 students are serving their communities and exploring more than 300 careers in agriculture thanks to the opportunities provided by FFA.

"The increase of our membership is a reflection of the dedication and deep

commitment of teachers in agricultural education," said National FFA Advisor Dr.

Larry Case. "These teachers reach out to all students and develop a mentoring relationship resulting in student success. Together with state leadership, they are bringing the legacy of FFA to new students."

As the membership roster expands to a 19-year high, the legacy of FFA continues to influence new generations.

"Our increasing membership can be traced to the growing opportunities of agricultural education and skills learned in the FFA," said Tim Hammerich, 2002-2003 National FFA President. "Today's membership reflects more than 300 different career interests, members in rural, urban, and suburban settings, and the cultural diversity found throughout this great nation."

-National FFA Press Release from Sept 2003



Happy FFA Week!

